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Docket No.: 2830-0174PUS1  
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Hiroyuki MAKINO et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: July 16, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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For: EXPANDER

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**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.